IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1 to 19 and 24 to 48 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

1 to 19.   (Cancelled)

20.   (Previously Presented) A method of communicating between communication stations adapted to communicate with each other when at least one of the communication stations supplies a synchronisation signal, the station then functioning in base station mode and the stations not supplying a synchronisation signal but synchronising on a synchronisation signal sent by a station functioning in base station mode then functioning in mobile station mode,

wherein the method includes a request operation during which a first base station transmits, to a mobile station, a request for the storage in memory and transmission, by the mobile station, of a message to a communication station for which the message is intended and which is not synchronised with the first base station,

and wherein the message represents traffic between the mobile stations synchronised on the first base station and the first base station,

and wherein the message destination station is the second base station, and the second base station performs, on receipt of the message, an operation of determining the total traffic during which it determines whether or not the sum:

of the traffic between the mobile stations synchronised on the first base station and the first base station, on the one hand, and

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the traffic between the mobile stations synchronised on the second base

station and the second base station, on the other hand, is less than a predetermined value.

21.   (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 20, wherein

when, during the total traffic determination operation, it is determined that the sum:

of the traffic between the mobile stations synchronised on the first base

station and the first base station, on the one hand, and

the traffic between the mobile stations synchronised on the second base

station and the second base station, on the other hand,

is less than the predetermined value, one of the base stations performs an

operation of switching into mobile station mode and synchronises on the other base station.

22.   (Previously Presented) A method of communicating between

communication stations adapted to communicate with each other when at least one of the

communication stations supplies a synchronisation signal, the station then functioning in

base station mode and the stations not supplying a synchronisation signal but synchronising

on a synchronisation signal sent by a station functioning in base station mode then

functioning in mobile station mode,

wherein the method includes a request operation during which a first base

station transmits, to a mobile station, a request for the storage in memory and transmission,

by the mobile station, of a message to a communication station for which the message is

intended and which is not synchronised with the first base station,

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and wherein the message represents traffic between the mobile stations synchronised on the first base station and the first base station,

and wherein the message destination station is the second base station, and on reception of the message, the second base station performs a first operation of determining the distribution of traffic between the two base stations during which the second mobile station determines whether or not:

on the one hand, the traffic between the mobile stations synchronised on the first base station and the first base station is less than a predetermined value, and

on the other hand, the traffic between the mobile stations synchronised on the second base station and the second base station is greater than a predetermined value.

23.   (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 22, wherein when, during the first traffic distribution determination operation, it is determined that:

the traffic between the mobile stations synchronised on the first base station and the first base station is less than a predetermined value, on the one hand, and

the traffic between the mobile stations synchronised on the second base station and the second base station is greater than a predetermined value, on the other hand,

the second base station performs an operation of seeking a communication to be transferred during which the second mobile station determines whether at least one of the communications between mobile stations which are synchronised with the second base station can be transferred to the first base station.

24 to 108.   (Cancelled)

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109.   (Previously Presented) A method of communicating between

communication stations adapted to communicate with each other when at least one of the

communication stations supplies a synchronisation signal, the station then functioning in

base station mode and the stations not supplying a synchronisation signal but synchronising

on a synchronisation signal sent by a station functioning in base station mode then

functioning in mobile station mode, wherein the method includes:

a first operation of receiving a message, during which a mobile station

synchronised with a first base station receives a message coming from the first base station,

an operation of detachment and attachment, during which the mobile station

synchronises with a second base station, without the two base stations synchronising with

each other, and

a second transmission operation, during which the mobile station transmits

the message to the second base station,

and wherein the message represents traffic between the mobile stations

synchronised on the first base station and the first base station,

and wherein the message destination station is the second base station, and

the second base station performs, on receipt of the message, an operation of determining

the total traffic during which it determines whether or not the sum:

of the traffic between the mobile stations synchronised on the first base

station and the first base station, on the one hand, and

the traffic between the mobile stations synchronised on the second base

station and the second base station, on the other hand, is less than a predetermined value.

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110.   (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 109,

wherein when, during the total traffic determination operation, it is determined that the

sum:

of the traffic between the mobile stations synchronised on the first base

station and the first base station, on the one hand, and

the traffic between the mobile stations synchronised on the second base

station and the second base station, on the other hand,

is less than the predetermined value, one of the base stations performs an

operation of switching into mobile station mode and synchronises on the other base station.

111.   (Previously Presented) A method of communicating between

communication stations adapted to communicate with each other when at least one of the

communication stations supplies a synchronisation signal, the station then functioning in

base station mode and the stations not supplying a synchronisation signal but synchronising

on a synchronisation signal sent by a station functioning in base station mode then

functioning in mobile station mode, wherein the method includes:

a first operation of receiving a message, during which a mobile station

synchronised with a first base station receives a message coming from the first base station,

an operation of detachment and attachment, during which the mobile station

synchronises with a second base station, without the two base stations synchronising with

each other, and

a second transmission operation, during which the mobile station transmits

the message to the second base station,

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and wherein the message represents traffic between the mobile stations synchronised on the first base station and the first base station,

and wherein the message destination station is the second base station, and on reception of the message, the second base station performs a first operation of determining the distribution of traffic between the two base stations during which the second mobile station determines whether or not:

on the one hand, the traffic between the mobile stations synchronised on the first base station and the first base station is less than a predetermined value, and

on the other hand, the traffic between the mobile stations synchronised on the second base station and the second base station is greater than a predetermined value.

112.   (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 111; wherein when, during the first traffic distribution determination operation, it is determined that:

the traffic between the mobile stations synchronised on the first base station and the first base station is less than a predetermined value, on the one hand, and

the traffic between the mobile stations synchronised on the second base station and the second base station is greater than a predetermined value, on the other hand,

the second base station performs an operation of seeking a communication to be transferred during which the second mobile station determines whether at least one of the communications between mobile stations which are synchronised with the second base station can be transferred to the first base station.

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